

502,052
Translation

Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JUL 2004

PCT/FR2003/000340

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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|--|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference GB2002004PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/FR2003/000340 | International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 04 février 2003 (04.02.2003) | Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 06 février 2002 (06.02.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C23C 14/34 | | |
| Applicant SAINT-GOBAIN GLASS FRANCE | | |

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| 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets. |
| 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application |

| | |
|--|---|
| Date of submission of the demand 11 avril 2003 (11.04.2003) | Date of completion of this report 29 January 2004 (29.01.2004) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/FR2003/000340

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
pages _____ 1-8 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
pages _____ 1-22 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____ 1/2-2/2 _____, filed with the letter of _____ 28 April 2003 (28.04.2003)

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1, 2, 3, 15, 17 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-22 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-22 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US-A-4 107 019 (TAKAO HIROSHI ET AL) 15 August 1978
(1978-08-15);

1. The present application does not fulfil the requirements set forth in PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claims 1, 2, 3, 15 and 17 is not novel under the terms of PCT Article 33(2).

D1 (see the abstract; column 4, lines 20-53 and column 8, lines 20-30) describes an electrochemical device comprising a nickel oxide-based film produced by cathode-sputtering a ceramic target consisting of nickel oxide powders and nickel powders. It follows that the nickel oxide in this target is deficient in oxygen in comparison with the stoichiometric composition.

As a result, the subject matter of claims 1, 2, 3, 15 and 17 is already known from D1.

2. The subject matter of claims 1-22 is not inventive because it does not lead to any unexpected effects

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or have any unexpected properties in relation to the
prior art.